

Sinclair Broadcast Group's recent actions have illustrated the dangers to localism caused by media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. When media centers not only control entire regional or national markets and then use them for the personal or partisan interests of their owners, the intent of a regulated publicly licensed system is violated. Cable channels are available for private use purposes. Public airwaves are not.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.